

If you have concerns or complaints about the HIV counseling and testing program, please call (877) 249-5115.

This is a free call.

If You Need Help Finding Pregnancy Care...
call 1-800-522-5006. Ask about free care.



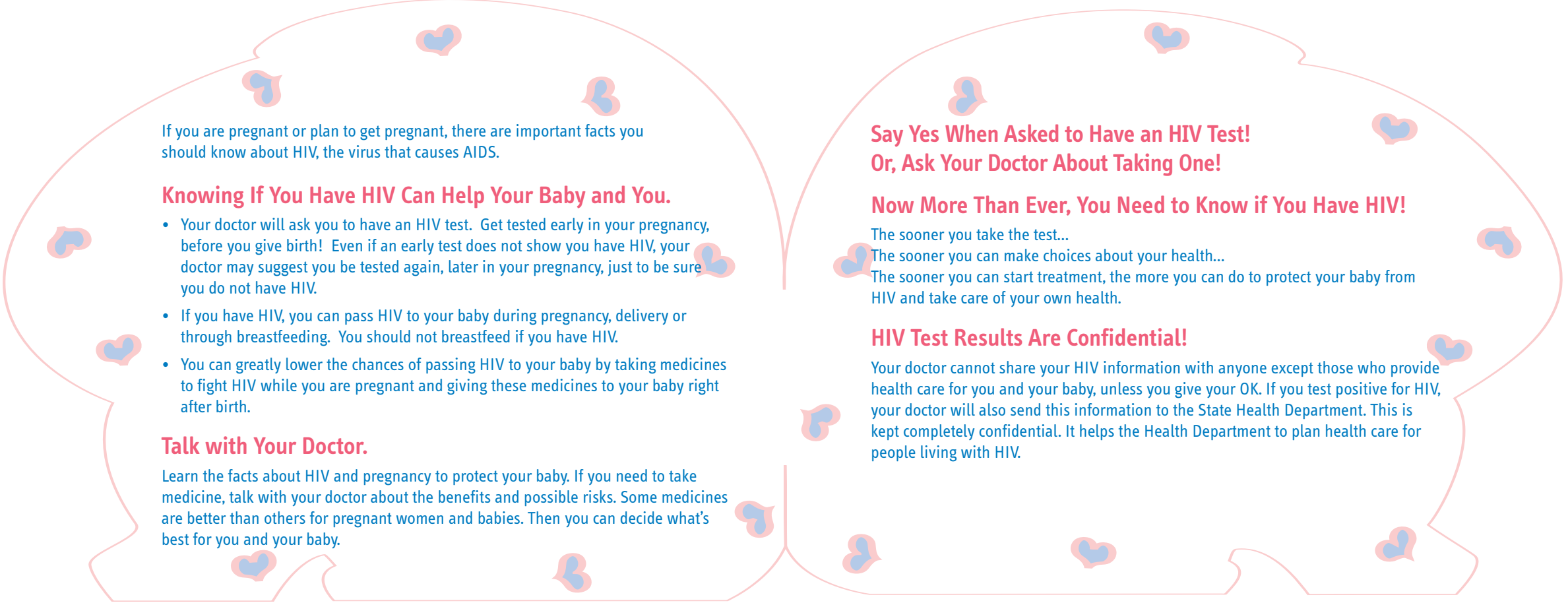
State of New York
George E. Pataki, Governor
Department of Health
Antonia C. Novello, M.D., M.P.H., Dr.P.H., Commissioner

9216

Rev. - 1/06

Important News

for pregnant women



If you are pregnant or plan to get pregnant, there are important facts you should know about HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

Knowing If You Have HIV Can Help Your Baby and You.

- Your doctor will ask you to have an HIV test. Get tested early in your pregnancy, before you give birth! Even if an early test does not show you have HIV, your doctor may suggest you be tested again, later in your pregnancy, just to be sure you do not have HIV.
- If you have HIV, you can pass HIV to your baby during pregnancy, delivery or through breastfeeding. You should not breastfeed if you have HIV.
- You can greatly lower the chances of passing HIV to your baby by taking medicines to fight HIV while you are pregnant and giving these medicines to your baby right after birth.

Talk with Your Doctor.

Learn the facts about HIV and pregnancy to protect your baby. If you need to take medicine, talk with your doctor about the benefits and possible risks. Some medicines are better than others for pregnant women and babies. Then you can decide what's best for you and your baby.

Say Yes When Asked to Have an HIV Test! Or, Ask Your Doctor About Taking One!

Now More Than Ever, You Need to Know if You Have HIV!

The sooner you take the test...

The sooner you can make choices about your health...

The sooner you can start treatment, the more you can do to protect your baby from HIV and take care of your own health.

HIV Test Results Are Confidential!

Your doctor cannot share your HIV information with anyone except those who provide health care for you and your baby, unless you give your OK. If you test positive for HIV, your doctor will also send this information to the State Health Department. This is kept completely confidential. It helps the Health Department to plan health care for people living with HIV.